



Rainbow over Greenbelt, December 27 at 7:45 a.m.

PHOTO BY DINAH COHEN, AGE 13

Council Approves Bridge MOU For Greenbelt Station Parkway

by Diane Oberg

With a meeting before and one right after its December 12 meeting, the Greenbelt City Council made short work of its agenda. Among other issues, they heard an update on escalating costs of repairing the dam at Greenbelt Lake, approved a draft memorandum of understanding (MOU) establishing maintenance responsibilities for the Greenbelt Station Parkway bridge and approved a grant program for low income renters. Council also introduced a resolution for the purchase of police body cameras.

Lake Dam

Council agreed to defer requesting bond funds to repair the dam at Buddy Attick Park. City Manager Michael McLaughlin said that in the current phase of the project they are having to go deeper to make repairs than expected and the materials in the dam are of poorer quality than expected. As a result, the cost estimate for the work has nearly doubled. The city wants to take a step back and review the project to determine if changes are needed before seeking bond funds that would need to be spent within a limited time frame.

Greenbelt Station

Council approved an MOU stating that if the county, the town of Berwyn Heights, the developer and the homeowners association concur, it will establish who is responsible for what regarding the maintenance of roughly 88 feet of roadway on Greenbelt Station Parkway, including the bridge over Branchville Road that connects Greenbelt Station's South Core to Greenbelt Road (Md. Route 193).

The bridge is a jurisdictional mess. It serves Greenbelt residents by connecting the South Core to Greenbelt Road; however, it is legally within the boundaries of Berwyn Heights, even though it does not connect to any Berwyn Heights roads. The bridge provides transit over Branchville Road, which is within the town limits of Berwyn Heights and is maintained by Prince George's County. The slopes north of the bridge are privately owned.

Under the MOU, as described in a memorandum from City Planner Jessica Bellah, the city would take on oversight and maintenance responsibilities for the 88 feet of roadway as if it were an extension of the city's dedicated right-of-way for the rest of Greenbelt Station Parkway. This includes items such as repair of potholes, sidewalks, curbs and gutters, guardrails and signage. The county would be responsible for all elements of the bridge's physical structure except the asphalt surface. The retaining walls north of the bridge will be maintained by the Greenbelt Station South Core Homeowners Association.

The MOU was approved by a 6 to 1 vote with Councilmember Rodney Roberts opposed. Roberts objected to city taxpayers maintaining a road outside of Greenbelt. While having the land become part of Greenbelt may seem the simplest solution, Bellah reported that the city cannot legally annex another town's property.

Metro Service

Council unanimously approved sending a letter to the Washington

Metropolitan Area Transit Authority expressing the city's concerns regarding the proposal to permanently eliminate late-night Metrorail service and the B30 bus between the Greenbelt Metro Station and the Baltimore-Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport. The letter will also call for improved marketing of the B30 service.

Legislation

A resolution to authorize the negotiated purchase of a package including police body cameras, video storage and support and replacing the department's Tasers was introduced for first reading. The total price is \$312,200 over five years.

Council unanimously approved legislation to establish a grant program for very low income renters. This program will provide renters approved by the state with a payment equal to one half of the state payment, following the county's example. The cost of

See **BRIDGE**, page 12

What Goes On

Monday, January 2

City Offices Are Closed
Greenbelt Connection Will Not Operate

Wednesday, January 4

8 p.m., Council Worksession with Principal of Eleanor Roosevelt High School, Community Center

Thursday, January 5

2:30 to 3:30 p.m., Free Produce Distribution, Springhill Lake Elementary School (See city ad for details.)

Top Stories of 2016

The News Review presents highlights of major stories of the past year. The reviews were prepared by Deanna Dawson, Amy Hansen, Kathleen Gallagher, James Giese, Sue Krofchik, Cathie Meetre, Diane Oberg and Mary Lou Williamson.

FBI Headquarters

In January council approved sending a letter to the GSA supporting the Greenbelt Metro Station site for a new FBI headquarters saying, "It is our strong belief that the Greenbelt site is the best location for a consolidated FBI headquarters." Springfield, Va., and the old Landover Mall are the two competing sites, each with its own cheerleader. A decision was expected by year's end. Lack of an early decision delayed providing a trail for the new residents of the South Core to reach the Greenbelt Metro Station.

Anticipation that the Democrats would win the White House brought awareness that the balance might be swinging toward the Virginia site.

In early December, the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure passed a resolution authorizing a new fully-consolidated FBI headquarters. Requirements in that resolution now seemed more favorable to the Maryland site. Still needed are funding from Congress and a final decision on the site location.

Community Fund Celebrates

For seven months of this year the Greenbelt Community Foundation (GCF) celebrated the contribution to this community of the organizations it has funded through its first 10 years of operation. Under the umbrella Explore Your Greenbelt, weekly articles in this paper and twice-monthly events showcased the variety of activities produced by each funded organization as part of their efforts to sustain and improve life in the city.

Over \$150,000 has been granted by GCF to organizations in amounts up to \$5,000 including a Blues Festival, the restoration of the Stream Valley Trail, a News Review Open House and environmental work by the Girl Scouts. Beltway Plaza's Back to School Night and St. Hugh's Food Pantry also celebrated their involvement in the Explore Your Greenbelt Program.

New City Manager?

The workload of the Greenbelt City Council was greatly increased by its need to find a replacement for retiring City Manager Michael McLaughlin. Since McLaughlin's May announcement, council has held numerous executive worksessions to select and employ an executive search firm, recruit potential candidates nationwide, identify the strengths a new manager should bring to the job and interview and select and negotiate terms of appointment with potential candidates. In September, GovHR USA, the executive search firm selected by council, met with city officials, city staff, various stakeholders including businesses, developers and representatives of city boards and committees and conducted two public meetings to seek input on what attributes and skills the next city manager should have, what challenges face the city and what positive aspects the city has that candidates might find appealing. On November 14, the council held a public meet and greet session at the Municipal Building for residents to meet and speak with three finalist candidates for the position. Since then, council has held other executive sessions, criticized by some for their secretiveness, but has yet to announce its final choice to become Greenbelt's seventh city manager.

County Zoning Rewrite

Having started a year earlier for the staff of the Prince George's County Planning Department, the proposed comprehensive rewrite of the County Zoning Ordinance and Subdivision Regulations was introduced to the public in 2015. In 2017 the document will be submitted to the county council, which acts as the district council on zoning and land-use matters.

During 2016, the rewrite kept county planning staff extremely busy, periodically spiked the workload of Greenbelt's planning staff, attracted a high level of interest from Greenbelt Homes, Inc., and brought out many city residents, in addition to council, to a series of informational briefings on its content and schedule.

The existing zoning ordinance is about 50 years old, weighs in at more than 1,200 pages and has been described as confusing, inconsistent, bloated, difficult to use and full of legalese. As if that were not bad enough, county staff deemed the ordinance to be no longer in sync with the county's vision for future growth and development.

The proposed document comprises three modules: Zones and Uses, Development Standards, and Zoning Processes and Subdivision Regulations. Multiple listening sessions for the public were presented this year on each module as it was drafted. In Greenbelt,

See **TOP STORIES**, page 7

Remembering Greenbelters Who Died in 2016

- Charles “Chuck” Roderick Ashurst, 64, January 5, 2016
Trisha Lynn Bayles, 42, October 22, 2016
John R. Beaird, 89, March 1, 2016
John M. Beckham, 80, March 18, 2016
Pauline Alice Bordas, 87, September 10, 2016
Bessie Brickman, 96, November 17, 2015
Kathleen Marie Brlansky, 62, April 15, 2016
Journey Butler, 13, July 7, 2016
Jacquelyn Ann Carrington, 58, March 24, 2016
Andrew “Andy” Rice Carruthers, 51, March 11, 2016
Barbara O. Cassidy, 85, July 15, 2016
Ann Chotiner, 97, July 19, 2016
John W. Churchill, 85, March 1, 2016
Martin “Marty” Coyne, 92, May 4, 2016
Mary Coyne, November 12, 2016
Joan Crompton, 69, February 8, 2016
Donald C. Davis, 86, April 10, 2016
Juanita M. Delaney, 95, May 7, 2016
Nancy Ann DePlatchett, 71, October 14, 2016
Robert George “Bob” D’Esposito, 80, November 1, 2016
Christine “Chris” Dively, 68, January 1, 2016
Ronald F. Don Bullian, 76, October 23, 2016
Giovanni “Johnny” Fama, 77, June 3, 2016
Betty Mavis Loeffler Fletcher, 90, February 7, 2016
Vernon T. “Ted” Fox, Jr., 87, November 12, 2016
Edward P. Greene, 80, February 23, 2016
Evangeline “Eve” Gresser, 88, March 28, 2016
Joy T. Grieg, 78, October 7, 2016
Linda Joy Grife, 54, September 1, 2016
Dr. Santosh Gupta, August 29, 2016
Frances Haker, 97, July 20, 2016
Catherine O’Connell Holcombe, 89, May 25, 2016
Charles “Charlie” Truitt Howey, 78, August 16, 2016
Shaun Michael Johnston, 26, February 8, 2016
Ann Marie Trapper Keller, 93, June 24, 2016
Joanne Scott Kennedy, 86, January 1, 2016
Sandra L. Kopta, 71, July 4, 2016
Robert Joseph Kosisky, Sr., 81, March 19, 2016
Erica Herling Kropp, 66, November 14, 2016
Carolyn Rose Leverone, 84, February 14, 2016
Barbara E. Likowski, 89, September 1, 2016
Christopher J. Linstrom, M.D., 65, February 17, 2016
Rev. Paul F. Liston, 84, March 23, 2016
Rose Lucille “Lucie” MacKinnon, 90, February 13, 2016
Terry “Coach” Mangum, 67, January 26, 2016
Robert Bacon Maxwell, 86, May 16, 2016
Shirley Maxwell, 82, March 28, 2016
Michael David Maxwell, Jr., 21, October 31, 2016
Beatriz Medina Mayoral, 76, March 8, 2016
Janet Meetre, 74, September 12, 2016
Patricia Anne “Patti” Molden, 65, September 13, 2016
Tim Moore, 70, April 10, 2016
Donald George Morrison, 79, May 2, 2016
David Ruby Myers, 73, November 17, 2016
John O’Brien, 64, February 1, 2016
Irene Owens, 94, May 24, 2016
Kathleen McKinney Pantano, 56, December 31, 2015
Martha Patton, 91, March 6, 2016
Clifton Wright “Buddy” Raley, 84, June 9, 2016
Margaret Rall, 77, October 19, 2016
Sally Robbins, 87, December 25, 2015
Gertrude Rose, 90, February 22, 2016
Cheryl Lee Rudd, 60, September 26, 2016
Linda Q. Sellin, 78, March 27, 2016
Michael Shegogue, 66, March 12, 2016
Barbara J. Simon, 73, June 23, 2016
Robert T. “Bob” Sommers, 91, June 16, 2016
Marion Vaughn, 73, April 2, 2016
Leopold Walder, 91, November 11, 2016
Terry R. Walton, 65, August 24, 2016
James Anthony “Jimmy” “Tator” Williams, 56, September 7, 2016
Gloria G. Wilson, 90, September 7, 2016
Regina Suter Wright, 88, January 31, 2016
Patricia Wynkoop-Washington, December 18, 2016
Esther Yalowitz, 90, January 22, 2016

City Notes

Public Works staff attended the commissioning of new LED light fixtures in the Community Center gym.
Refuse/Recycling/Sustainability crews collected 23.17 tons of refuse and 12.54 tons of recyclable material.
A second collection of 25 unwrapped Toys for Tots was delivered to a Toys "R" Us drop box.



Best wishes for the New Year from the Staff of the Greenbelt News Review

Illustration of two mittens and a stylized building with 'GREENBELT' written vertically.

Old Greenbelt Theatre
129 Centerway
301-329-2034
www.greenbelttheatre.org
Members always \$6.50!
Adults \$9, Senior/Student \$8, Members \$6.50, Kids \$6
All shows before 5 PM:
Adults \$7, Members \$6.50, Kids \$5
OC = Open Captions
CC = Closed Captions

SHOWTIMES
Dec 30 – Jan 5

MANCHESTER BY THE SEA (R) (CC) (137 mins)
Fri. 5:15, 8:00 PM
Sat. 3:00, 5:45, 8:30 PM
Sun. 1:00 (OC), 3:45, 6:30 PM
Mon. & Tues. 5:15, 8:00 PM
Wed. 2:30, 5:15, 8:00 PM
Thurs. 5:15, 8:00 PM

NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM (108 mins)
Sat. 1:00 PM

SOME LIKE IT HOT (120 mins) FREE!
Mon. 1:00 PM



Pure Profit!

Send us your photos!

The News Review would like to print more photos of Greenbelt landmarks, activities and the changing seasons. Photos should be at least 300 dpi, and must include the name of the photographer, and a caption. The caption must name any identifiable people in the photo, as well as explain the picture. The photos may be black and white or color in the print issue but will be color in the online version. Send us no more than five photos at a time.

www.greenbeltnewsreview.com

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DEADLINES: Letters, Articles and Classified Ads—8 p.m. Tuesday. Display Ads 4 p.m. Monday, 8 p.m. Tuesday if camera ready. Materials for publication may be mailed to address above, deposited in our box in the Co-op grocery store (by 7 p.m. Tuesday) or brought to our office in the Community Center, 15 Crescent Road, during office hours. Mail subscriptions—\$45/year.

Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.
OFFICE HOURS: Monday 2 - 4 p.m., Tuesday 2 - 4, 6 - 10 p.m.



Envelopes for News Review Carriers Are Now Distributed

The News Review Carriers remain hopeful that you won’t forget them. It is never too late to send a tip to a deserving young person who distributes your newspaper. Envelopes marked with the year 2016 were distributed in the last two weeks and we hope residents will

act with their typical generosity.

If you didn’t get an envelope and would like to send a tip to your carrier, please put it in an envelope and send it to the paper at Greenbelt News Review, 15 Crescent Road, Suite 100, and make sure the delivery address is on the envelope. Clearly mark the envelope with the word Carrier and make sure your address is legible so we can get it to the right person.

Celebrate at Arts Center: An Evening with Friends

by Konrad Herling

New Year’s Eve at the Greenbelt Arts Center promises to be an enjoyable evening with friends.

Remember the New Year’s parties you’d go to wearing a tux or fancy dress? Well, you’re free to come to this New Year’s Eve dressed in either formal or casual attire for “An Evening with Friends” variety show. The program, which will be a zero-waste event, begins at 8:30 p.m.

To welcome our audience, one can enjoy either hot coffee, hot chocolate or a glass of wine. Previous articles regarding the event have noted the performers, Emmett Jordan on guitar, Glenn Harris on bass and Konrad Herling on piano as well as Patricia Walters, who will be playing an opera piece on violin. Walters will be accompanied by one of her violin students, Daphne Jackson. Another young student, Crystal DeLarzo, a junior at Northwestern High School, will play piano.

Two or three short films from the Utopia Film Festival will be shown. No advance notice as to which films will be shown has been provided so you’ll have to come to the show to find out.

Two vocalists will sing Burt Bacharach’s What the World

Needs Now is Love. Katrina Dodro, who serves on the New Carrollton City Council, and Dixie Doyle, a federal retiree, can be seen and heard around the area singing with the South County ShowStoppers, a senior variety troupe, as well as with the choir at Calvary United Methodist Church in Annapolis.

As usual, the program’s co-producers Susan Barnett and Konrad Herling wish to thank Piano Tuners Co. (Robin & David Pitts) for tuning the piano, Jean Newcomb for help with publicity, volunteers to welcome those attending, the Greenbelt Arts Center and Tom Zanner for his working the tech booth as well as the Greenbelt Community Development Corporation for assistance in putting the program together. Additionally, in a brief interview Gwen Vaccaro of the Friends of the Old Greenbelt Theatre will tell us the latest happenings there.

Just minutes before midnight, audience members can re-join at the Mother and Child statue to sing Auld Lang Syne to bring in the new year.

To make reservations, call the Greenbelt Arts Center at 301-441-8770 or order tickets online at greenbeltartscenter.org.

Greenway Center: Looking Good Going into New Year

by Kathleen Gallagher

On December 14 council met in a stakeholder worksession with representatives of Combined Properties, Inc., the owner of the Greenway Center shopping center. Stakeholder worksessions are meetings council holds at regular intervals with larger businesses, property owners and community groups to discuss issues of concern and to share information of mutual interest.

Attending for Combined Properties were Vice President of Property Management Holly Haley, Property Manager Richard Bunch, Vice President of Construction Andrew Marusak and Leasing Representative Greg Hull.

Greenway Center’s overall news was very positive, with no vacancies despite the fairly high business vacancy rates that still prevail in the region. Everyone was pleased with the new monument sign at the main entrance on Greenbelt Road. Councilmembers agreed that it looks good and Bunch expressed how important that identification at the roadway is to their tenants.

Bunch also described the capital improvements undertaken since they last met with council, including considerable roofing and asphalt work. Work to bird-proof the area under the canopies has been accomplished for the first time. A major change is the installation of new light poles and LED lighting, which Combined Properties has found will not only save money but also improve the

appearance of the center.

Several topics make a predictable appearance on the agenda for this worksession whenever it is held. Councilmember Leta Mach makes her biannual pitch for finding a location to install a kiosk that could include city and community information as well as Greenway Center information. One goal of this project would be to clearly identify Greenway Center as part of the City of Greenbelt.

Councilmember Judith Davis usually leads the charge, along with Councilmember Rodney Roberts and Mayor Emmett Jordan, to critique the landscaping,

See **GREENWAY**, page 11



Greenway Center is off of Greenbelt Road.

GCAN Meeting January 4

Greenbelt Climate Action Network will next meet Wednesday, January 4, from 7 to 9 p.m. in Room 114 at the Community Center. The meeting will feature an update on the proposed statewide ban on fracking and will include discussion on strategies for supporting passage of this legislation during the next session of the Maryland General Assembly (January 11 to April 10). There will also be discussion on how we can connect with and include a more diverse audience within and beyond Greenbelt.

The last portion of the evening will be reserved for local announcements and updates on issues at the city, county, state and national level.

For more information, contact Lore Rosenthal, lore@simplicity-matters.org, 301-345-2234.

Golden Age Club

by Bunny Fitzgerald

The Golden Age Club is looking forward to a busy and interesting new year.

The installation of new officers will take place on January 4. Julie McHale, director of Recreation, will be the installing officer.

Jean Cook will be telling us about the Food Pantries on January 11. More information on needed contributions to follow.

Just a reminder: If the schools are closed due to bad weather, the club will not meet.

It’s that time of year again. Time to pay dues for the next year. We always welcome guests at the meetings. Come and see what the Golden Agers do and have planned.

We wish everyone good health, joy and peace for the year to come.

GHI Notes

Friday, December 30, office closed, Emergency Maintenance Service available at 301-474-6011.

Monday, January 2, office closed, Emergency Maintenance Service available.

Thursday, January 5, 7:30 p.m., Board of Directors Meeting, Board Room.

Saturday, January 7, 11 a.m., Pre-purchase Orientation, Board Room.

Monday, January 9, 7:30 p.m., Storm Water Management Task Force, GHI Lobby.

Community Events

Free Workshops Offer Post-election Healing

Trainers in Nonviolent Communication are holding three free workshops at the Community Center. The first, Transforming Post-election Blues is scheduled for Sunday, January 8, from 2 to 4 p.m. Organizers, including Jane Connor McMahon, Kanya Likanasudh and Ian Solomon, say the program will explore feelings, hopes and concerns about what has happened as well as effective strategies for growing resilience, adaptability and hope.

The other two workshops are scheduled for Saturday, January 21 and Sunday, January 22, both from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Their topics are Energy for Building a World of Compassion and Connecting Across Differences - Post Election. All three workshops are sponsored by the Peace and Justice Coalition of Prince George’s County.

For more information contact Jane Connor McMahon 202-682-5974 or email janemconnor@gmail.com.

Toastmasters Meet

The Greenbelt Toastmasters Club will meet on Wednesday, January 4 at 7:30 p.m. in the Social Hall of Greenbelt Community Church at Hillside and Crescent Roads. The group offers professionals, students, stay-at-home parents and retirees a supportive environment to improve skills in communication and leadership.



At the Library

All Prince George’s County Memorial Library System branches will be closed from Friday, December 30 through Monday, January 2 for the New Year’s Eve and New Year’s Day holidays. The Greenbelt Branch Library will reopen on Tuesday, January 3 at 1 p.m.

Weekly Ready 2 Read Storytimes

Tuesday, January 3: Ready 2 Read Storytime: Ages 3 to 5, 7 p.m., limit 20 people.

Wednesday, January 4: Ready 2 Read Storytime: Ages 3 to 5, 10:15 a.m., limit 20 people; Ready 2 Read Storytime: Ages 2 to 3, 11:15 a.m., limit 20 people.

Thursday, January 5: Ready 2 Read Storytime: Ages 0 to 2, 10:15 and 11:15 a.m., limit 15 babies with parent(s) or caregiver(s); Ready 2 Read Storytime: Ages 2 to 3, 4:15 p.m., limit 20 people.

Encourage your child to make reading a positive experience by bringing them to the library’s storytimes. Each program contains a mixture of engaging activities and age-appropriate stories that support early literacy. Stop by the Information Desk immediately prior to each session to pick up free tickets available on a first-come, first-served basis.

More Community Events are located throughout the paper.

Utopia Film Festival Presents
Sunday, Jan. 1st, Wed., Jan. 4th & Fri., Jan. 6th
Beginning at 8 PM

“Jim Morris: Lifelong Fit (2014),” “Art Bastard (2015),” and “Judgement Day (2015)”

On Greenbelt Access Television, Inc. (GATe)
Comcast 77 & Verizon Fios 19 Channels

Greenbelt Arts Center NEW YEAR'S EVENT AT GAC

New Year’s Evening with Friends

The Greenbelt New Year’s Evening With Friends returns to the stage at the Greenbelt Arts Center on December 31!

Bringing the community together through the arts and creative ideas

Magician, Music, Short films from the Utopia Film Festival!

This will be a zero waste event.

Among the talented performers:
Greenbelt Mayor Emmett Jordan
Greenbelt City Council member Konrad Herling
Patricia Walters, City Environmental Sustainability Committee
And More!

A Remembrance Of Long-Time Arts Creator And Fierce Proponent, Barbara Simon.

Audience will be invited to move to the Roosevelt Center plaza to sing Auld Lang Syne at 11:55 p.m. to welcome the New Year. There are still openings on the program so potential performers are encouraged to contact Konrad Herling at 301-345-9369.

DECEMBER 31, 2016 AT 8:30PM

BUY TICKETS AT WWW.GREENBELTARTSCENTER.ORG

COMING SOON

A Visit from Scarface – Jan 20 - Feb 11, 2017 – Directed by Keith Brown

For information & reservations, call 301-441-8770 or email: info@greenbeltartscenter.org or BOOK TICKETS ONLINE at www.greenbeltartscenter.org

Greenbelt Access Television, Inc. (GATe)

2nd Floor, Greenbelt Community Center, Suite 204
www.greenbeltaccessstv.org • Studio: 301-507-6581

Holiday Hours:

Monday – Friday: 11AM-5PM through New Year’s Day
Open – Saturday, December 31, 10-12Noon
Open – Monday, January 2nd at 11AM

Free and Open to the Public

Orientation Class – Tuesday., Jan. 3rd , 7-10PM
Reservation recommended.

Check out our Channel on Comcast 77 and Verizon Fios 19
To view our schedule, visit: www.greenbeltaccessstv.org
And click on “Channel”

Planner Studies Mobility For Seniors and Disabled

by James Giese

Transportation planner Lucinda Shannon met with the Greenbelt City Council at a December 5 worksession to get advice about identifying key areas where Greenbelt’s senior and disabled populations are underserved. Shannon’s consulting firm, KFH of Bethesda, is doing a senior mobility and accessibility needs and barriers study for the National Capital Region Transportation Board as a part of its Transportation/Land-Use Connections Technical Assistance Program. Council is one of multiple stakeholders in Greenbelt from which she intends to seek similar advice.

The study consists of three primary components: a geographic origin and destination analysis of the population, a survey of the current satisfaction levels of the existing built environment and transportation services, and recommendations for transportation services and capital projects to address the needs identified in the first two components.

Jessica Bellah of the Greenbelt Department of Planning and Community Development, which is providing staff liaison to Shannon, also attended the meeting.

Comments

Councilmember Judith Davis told Shannon that while there are already a variety of transportation forms to serve the special needs of seniors and disabled, she felt that many are not aware of them or how to access them.

Councilmember Konrad Herling said there is a misperception that Greenbelt’s senior population is concentrated in the center section of the city. He felt that the senior population is increasing significantly in other areas of the city as well. Metro Access, the special van service offered by the Washington Metropolitan

Area Transit Authority, is not being used as much as it should be because people using it for medical appointments who have been delayed at their medical practitioner’s office beyond pick-up time for their return trip found themselves without transportation. Having a circulator bus through Greenbelt would help deal with that problem.

Councilmember Leta Mach identified a walkability problem with the interior sidewalk system in original Greenbelt. Some of the walkways are too steeply sloped and become slippery with wet leaves or icy in winter. Also, more overpasses across the Baltimore-Washington Parkway would be helpful.

Councilmember Silke Pope noted that different sections of the community have different issues. Walkability is not as good in Greenbelt East or West.

Councilmember Edward Putens said that his experiences with bad knees caused him to better realize the problems the disabled face. There is a need for vehicles to assist the temporarily disabled.

Money

Mayor Emmett Jordan said cost is a factor. You can get a cab from the Greenbelt Metro station to Greenbelt East, but the fare is \$12. He understood using Uber would be cheaper. Those living in Greenbriar have a grocery store within a few blocks, but getting across Greenbelt Road is a challenge.

Davis pointed out that seniors and disabled can get taxi vouchers, but that many are not aware of this. She also pointed out that there are many areas not well lit at night. Also, many sidewalks do not connect and in some neighborhoods sidewalks are not even

wanted. Accessible bus shelters are another issue, she said. The bottom line, however, is money to correct these issues. More grants are needed, she felt.

Herling added that Hanover Parkway is difficult to cross. He also noted that there are handrails along a steeply sloped walkway leading from Roosevelt Center to Green Ridge House and these would be helpful in other places where walks slope.

Partnership

Pope suggested developing a transportation partnership with Uber or another similar service. Putens said it is needed for more than just within Greenbelt, but to get beyond it. Jordan noted that there are six hotels in the city, each providing shuttle service, and that possibly they could join together to provide a circulator service.

Davis pointed out that Americans have a car-based culture that needs to be changed. People expect to be picked up and left off wherever and whenever they wish to go.

Councilmember Rodney Roberts, who arrived to the meeting late, noted the lack of resources to fulfill needs. He thought that the Greenbelt Connection was a good operation to serve elderly and disabled and the city should build on it.

From the audience, Ed James, a board member for Greenbelt Homes Inc., invited Shannon to meet with its members.

Patty Walters, a resident of Greenbelt Station, pointed out that people still want to get out and drive about.

Shannon indicated that she would continue to seek comment from residents as to the transportation and walking needs of the disabled and elderly.

Blood Donations

It can’t be wrapped or placed under a tree, but the perfect gift can help save patient lives this holiday season. The American Red Cross urges eligible donors to give the lifesaving gift of a blood donation at this time, a time when donations decline but the needs of patients remain steady.

Donors of all blood types are needed this holiday season to help ensure a sufficient supply for hospital patients. To encourage donations, all those who come to donate through January 8 will receive a long-sleeved Red Cross T-shirt, while supplies last.

To make an appointment to give blood, download the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit redcrossblood.org or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767). Donors are encouraged to make appointments and complete the RapidPass online health history questionnaire at redcrossblood.org/rapidpass to save time when donating.



Wishes for a speedy and full recovery to News Review staffer Kathleen McFarland, who fell while visiting her daughter in California and broke her left hip and shoulder. She is now in a rehab facility and cannot wait to come home. In the meantime, cards should be sent to her daughter Lisa Tovar, 6127 Castana Avenue, Lakewood, CA 90712.

Please share your news for the next Our Neighbors column by sending complete details on your news to kyoho@comcast.net, or call 202-957-3072.

- Karen Yoho

Obituaries

The News Review publishes obituaries of Greenbelt residents, past or present.

You write it or we will if you prefer. We try to include information about participation in various activities and organizations, where the person lived and something about the family. A photograph and service information should be included. There is no charge.

Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church

40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt

Open hearts, Open minds, Open doors
www.greenbeltumc.org 301-474-9410

Rev. Fay Lundin, Pastor



Worship Service 10 a.m.
Start the New Year right Communion Sunday

GREENBELT BAPTIST CHURCH



Come worship God with us!
Sunday School 9:45AM
Worship Service 11:00AM

101 Greenhill Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770
(301) 474-4212 www.greenbeltbaptist.org

Film Features Early Lakeland School

The College Park Arts Exchange (CPAE) presents a free film, the Rosenwald documentary, on Friday, January 6 at 7:30 p.m. at the Hope Lutheran Church, 4201 Guilford Drive, College Park.

CPAE teams with movies@hope (hopecp.org) for this free screening. Jewish philanthropist Julius Rosenwald helped African American communities build over 5,300 schools during the early 20th century, including the Lakeland School in College Park. County historian Susan Pearl will lead discussion.



“When freedom of conscience, liberty of thought & right of speech prevail...development & growth are inevitable.” - Baha’i Writings

Greenbelt Baha'i Community

1-800-22-UNITE 301-345-2918
Greenbelt.Bahai.Info@gmail.com www.greenbeltbahais.org

ST. HUGH OF GRENOBLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

135 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770
301-474-4322



Mass Schedule:
Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 a.m.
Saturday 9:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m.
Daily Mass: 7:15 a.m.

Sacrament of Penance: Saturday 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Pastor: Rev. Walter J. Tappe

Greenbelt Community Church

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



1 Hillside (at Crescent Road)
Phone: 301-474-6171 mornings
www.greenbeltcommunitychurch.org

Sunday Worship
10:15 a.m.

Rev. Glenyce Grindstaff, Pastor



Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church

3215 Powder Mill Road, Adelphi
Phone: 301-937-3666 www.pbuuc.org



Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community

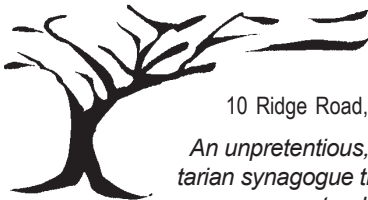


January 1 10 a.m.
"Kwanzaa: An All Ages Celebration, Assessment and Feast"

Carmelita Carter-Sykes with Carla Miller, Director of Multigenerational Exploration, Worship Associate Will Snyder, and the Chalice Dancers

Sponsored by the Diversity/Anti Racism Transformation Team, (DARTT), traditional music and rituals, drumming, stories, creation of art and the Chalice Dancers. Immediately followed by the Kwanzaa Sharing Feast.

This is an All Ages Celebration. Nursery Care for the youngest is provided.



Mishkan Torah Congregation

10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770 301-474-4223

An unpretentious, historic, welcoming, liberal, egalitarian synagogue that respects tradition and becomes your extended family in the 21st century.

Shabbat services: Friday evening at 8:00 PM, except 1st Friday of the month, i.e. family service at 7:30 PM. Saturday morning services at 9:30 AM. Educational programs for children K–12 and for adults. Combined innovative full family educational program for parents and children. Conversion classes. Concert choir. Social Action program. Opportunity for leadership development. Moderate, flexible dues. High holiday seating for visitors. Sisterhood. Men's Club. Other Social Activities. Interfaith families are welcome.

Historic synagogue dually affiliated with United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism and the Jewish Reconstructionist Federation



Catholic Community of Greenbelt MASS

Sundays 10 A.M.
Municipal Building

ALL ARE WELCOME.

At the New Deal Café

On Thursday, December 29, Tom Gleason hosts Open Mic from 7 to 9 p.m.

Friday, December 30, enjoy jazz and blues piano by Takoma Park’s own John Guernsey from 6:30 to 8 p.m.

From 8:30 to 11:30 p.m., The Big Boy Little Band plays the deep, deep blues -- the kind of blues you used to hear on a distant radio station broadcasting from somewhere down south, late at night. The kind of blues that makes you want to go somewhere and dance or shout or just be alive.

Saturday, December 31, enjoy more jazz and blues piano by Guernsey from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. The New Year’s Eve with dinner, champagne, and Beatles tribute band The GoodFellas runs from 8:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. Tickets are \$35. Reservations required. See details at www.newdealcafe.com.

On Tuesday, January 3, The New Old Jamboree hosted by Ruthie and the Wranglers plays from 7 to 9 p.m. There will be new songs, old songs and special guests.

On Wednesday, January 4, Seth Kibel and Tom Teasley play from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Seth Kibel is an award-winning woodwind specialist who has made a name for himself throughout the Mid-Atlantic in the genres of jazz, swing, klezmer, and more. Tom Teasley is a globe-trotting percussionist whose innovative percussion approaches are heralded worldwide. Together, they blend sounds both old and new, traditional and innovative, to create a sound like no other. Jewish klezmer, Arabic rhythms, and American jazz are all a part of this improvisatory blend.

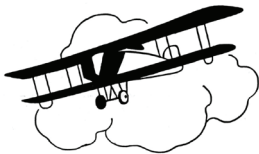
Airport Museum Art Exhibit Opening

On Thursday, January 5 at 5:30 p.m., the College Park Aviation Museum will host a free reception marking the opening of a new exhibit.

Experience the Art of the Airport Tower exhibit composed of 50 photographs by Smithsonian photographer Carolyn Russo. It explores the varied forms and functions of airport traffic control towers in the U.S. and around the world.

Enjoy light refreshments while getting an after-hours look at the exhibit, then try building an airport tower.

Call 301-864-6029; TTY 301-699-2544 for more information.



Holy Cross Thrift Store

Every Thursday
10am – 4pm

Good, clean clothes for women,
men and children!
Shoes, jewelry, books, etc.

6905 Greenbelt Road
Greenbelt, Md. 301-345-5111



City Information

MEETINGS FOR WEEK OF JANUARY 2-6

Tuesday, January 3 at 8:00pm,**EXECUTIVE SESSION - Personnel (Contract Negotiations for City Manager) See below.**

Wednesday, January 4 at 7:00pm,**EXECUTIVE SESSION - Collective Bargaining Negotiations. See below.**

Wednesday, January 4 at 8:00pm, **COUNCIL WORK SESSION w/Principal of Eleanor Roosevelt High School** at the Community Center, 15 Crescent Road.

Wednesday, January 4 at Immediately following Work Session, **EXECUTIVE SESSION - Acquisition of Property. See below.**

The schedule is subject to change. For confirmation that a meeting is being held call 301-474-8000.

OFFICIAL NOTICE

In accordance with Section 3-305(b)(1) of the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of the Public General Laws of Maryland, an Executive Session of the Greenbelt City Council will be held on Tuesday, January 3, 2017, at 8:00 p.m. in the Library of the Municipal Building.

The purpose of this meeting will be to consider a Personnel Matter – Contract Negotiations for the City Manager Position. Cindy Murray, City Clerk

OFFICIAL NOTICE

In accordance with Section 3-305(b)(9) of the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of the Public General Laws of Maryland, an Executive Session of the Greenbelt City Council will be held on Wednesday, January 4, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. in Room 201 of the Greenbelt Community Center.

The purpose of this meeting will be to discuss collective bargaining negotiations. Cindy Murray, City Clerk

OFFICIAL NOTICE

In accordance with Section 3-305(b)(3) of the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of the Public General Laws of Maryland, an Executive Session of the Greenbelt City Council will be held on Wednesday, January 4, 2017, immediately following the 8:00 p.m. work session. The meeting will be held in Room 201 of the Greenbelt Community Center.

The purpose of this meeting will be to discuss acquisition of real property. Cindy Murray, City Clerk

This holiday season, consider making a Charitable Donation to City of Greenbelt’s Agency Funds

Consider donating at this time of year to the Agency Funds, which helps our neighbors in need. Agency Funds are managed but not financed by the City. All donations to the funds are used for the listed charitable purposes.

Donation areas include the following:

The Recreation Department: funds used to support camp scholarships and special events.

Greenbelt CARES Youth and Family Services Bureau: the funds provide refreshments for the counseling sessions.

The Good Samaritan Fund: funds provide for out-of-town persons stranded in Greenbelt and monies for groceries for low income families with whom CARES is working.

Emergency Assistance Fund: funds assist Greenbelt residents at-risk of eviction.

Advisory Committee on Education (ACE): fund initiatives such as ACE scholarships.

The Greenbelt Theater: funds help keep the theater open.

Spay and Neuter Clinic Agency Fund: funds used to purchase supplies and equipment to perform cat and dog neuters at the shelter.

Checks may be made payable to the City of Greenbelt. Donors may direct their donation toward one or more of the agency funds. Donations are tax deductible and upon request a letter acknowledging your gift will be issued.

Thank you to all residents who have contributed in years past. Happy Holidays!

FREE PRODUCE DISTRIBUTION

Thursday, January 5, 2017 from 2:30pm-3:30pm
Springhill Lake Elementary School, 6060 Springhill Drive
Bring your own bags and rolling carts. Please come to the front entrance of the school no earlier than 2:15 pm.

VACANCIES ON BOARDS & COMMITTEES

Volunteer to serve on City Council Advisory Groups. There are currently vacancies on: Arts Advisory Board, Employee Relations Board, Forest Preserve Advisory Board, Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability, Park and Recreation Advisory Board and Youth Advisory Committee.

For information on how to apply contact 301-474-8000.

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

City Offices will be closed Monday, January 2 in observance of the New Year’s Holidays.

REFUSE/RECYCLING SCHEDULE

Week of January 2-6
Monday Route – Collected Tuesday
Tuesday Route – Collected Wednesday
Wednesday Route – Collected Thursday
Thursday Route – Collected Friday

There will be no appliance or yard waste collections on Friday, January 6.

GREENBELT CONNECTION

The Greenbelt Connection will not operate on Monday, January 2.

MEMORY SUPPORT GROUP AND CAFÉ

Wednesdays from January 18-March 29
Support Group 1:30-2:30pm
Cafe Group 1:30-3pm Greenbelt Municipal Building, 25 Crescent Rd.

The Memory Support Group & Café provides a stigma-free environment for those with early-stage Alzheimer’s disease, mild cognitive impairment or other forms of dementia and their spouses, partners and caregivers. It is a great opportunity for lively discussions, information gathering, refreshments, camaraderie, and engaging creative fun! Caregivers are encouraged to attend at least the first session.

If you are interested in participating, you must register with Sharon Johnson at 240-542-2029 or sjohnson@greenbeltmd.gov

Sponsored by the Greenbelt Assistance in Living Program.

Christmas Tree Collection

Your discarded Christmas tree can be recycled. The Public Works Department will pick up trees at the locations listed below and process them through the wood chipper. The chips will be used as mulch around trees and flower beds. Please bring trees to any of the following areas up until February 3, 2017.

GHI
Ridge Road, 73 Court (opposite playground)
Plateau Place and Ridge Road (corner on playground side)
Research Road and Hillside Road (corner)
Ridge Road, 44 Court (Area near playground)
Eastway and Crescent Road (corner)
Ridge Road, 21 Court (across from Green Ridge House)
Crescent Road and Ridge Road (playground at junction)
Parkway (corner across from 58 Court Crescent Road)
Parkway (corner across from Community Church)
Southway, 7 Court (playground at Little League field)
Ridge Road, 11 Court and 13 Court area (area between courts)
Boxwood - Ivy Lane and Lastner Lane (playground)
Lakewood - Greenhill Road and Crescent Road (by Baptist Church)
Charlestowne Village and Charlestowne North
Property adjacent to Attick Park
University Square - In front of swimming pool
Lakeside North - Near Swimming pool
Springhill Lake - Springhill Lake (community building)
Greenbriar
Between buildings 7708 and 7710, Hanover Parkway
Between buildings 7728 and 7730, Hanover Parkway
Between buildings 7826 and 7828, Hanover Parkway
Between buildings 8003 and 8009, Mandan Road
Glen Oaks
Between buildings 7903 and 7905, Mandan Road
Between buildings 7509 and 7511, Mandan Road
Hunting Ridge - Between buildings 6936 and 6978, Hanover Pkwy
Windsor Green -Court entrances, picked up by Windsor Green staff
Greenbrook Village and Estates
Southeast corner of Ora Glen Dr. and Mathew Drive
Southeast corner of Hanover Parkway and Greenbrook Drive
In front of barricade at Mandan Road and Mathew Street
Greenwood Village
Opposite 8175 Mandan Terrace
Opposite 7646 Mandan Road
Opposite 7648 Mandan Road
Greenspring and Greenspring II
Southwest corner of Megan Lane and Craddock Road
Park area between 7926 and 8006 Greenbury Drive
Corner of Spring Manor Drive and Springshire Way
Open area between 6519 and 6515 Springcrest Drive
Belle Point
Corner of Vanity Fair Drive and Prince James Way
Open area between 7800 and 7801 Vanity Fair Drive
Open area beside 7962 Vanity Fair Drive
Greenbelt Village
Open area between 6729 & 6715 Village Park Drive
Open area across from 6632 Lake Park Drive
Open area across from 6510 & 6512 Lake Park Drive

When you need high-quality health care, we're here for you... And here. And here.

We put the *community* in Doctors Community Hospital with healthcare services conveniently located throughout Prince George's County. So, you don't need to leave your neighborhood to get high-quality medical care.

As a healthcare leader, our experienced and compassionate professionals provide exceptional care:

- + Joslin Diabetes Center – the only multidisciplinary program in the county accredited by the American Diabetes Association
- + Bariatric and Weight Loss Center – the county's first hospital to provide bariatric weight loss options using the da Vinci® surgical robot
- + Center for Comprehensive Breast Care – the first program in the county with a dedicated breast surgeon
- + Comprehensive Rehabilitation Services – the area's largest lymphedema program

In fact, we have a broad range of medical and surgical services that also include:

- + Cardiology Services and Outpatient Vascular Studies
- + Center for Wound Healing and Hyperbaric Medicine
- + Comprehensive Orthopedic Services
- + Doctors Community Breast Center
- + Doctors Community Rehabilitation and Patient Care Center (transitional care)
- + Doctors Community Surgical Associates
- + Doctors Regional Cancer Center
- + Emergency Department (24/7)
- + Imaging Services
- + Infusion Center
- + Primary Care Services (Bowie, District Heights, Greenbelt, Landover Hills, Lanham, Laurel and Riverdale)
- + Sleep Center
- + Vascular Health Program

For more than 40 years, Doctors Community Hospital has provided comprehensive and high-quality care. We'll continue to be here when you need us . . . wherever in Prince George's County you happen to be.



Contact us today for more information or to schedule an appointment.
301-DCH-4YOU | 301-324-4968



Main Campus
8118 Good Luck Road
Lanham, Maryland 20706
DCHweb.org

TOP STORIES continued from page 1

presentations were made at city council worksessions, the Greenbelt Branch Library and Eleanor Roosevelt High School.

Extensive comments were submitted by the city council and planning department, as well as by residents, and comments continue to be accepted online at the project’s website at zoningpgc.pgplanning.com. Most recently, the county staff’s technical analysis of comments from stakeholders on Module 1 was released to the public, a 77-page document that is also available on the website.

The remaining schedule involves the production of a new draft document in early 2017, which will again be available to the public for comment prior to its submission to the county council. It will then be up to the council to determine what actions it wishes to take, ranging from approving it to taking no action at all.

The City of Greenbelt has raised both major and minor concerns about the rewrite over the last year. While there is an expectation that many of them will be addressed in the next draft, it has been said repeatedly that the devil will be in the details. Significant concerns include, for example, the role of municipal governments in the review process, adequate notification and participation for the public, the specifics of the appeal process and maintaining protections for Historic Greenbelt, including GHI.

Greenbelt Station Wrinkles

The year began with a disagreement between the developer and council regarding the number of units to be developed in Phase 3. Although the retail component of the project has been largely eliminated, council was not pleased with the housing density adopted when this land was converted to residential use.

As residents moved in, council was surprised to learn that elementary and high school students would not attend schools in Greenbelt despite a 2004 county bill that assured Greenbelt and Bowie that their students would attend schools within each municipality. Schools officials appeared unfamiliar with this requirement and reiterated their stance that the school system is a county, not a municipal, system.

Lakeside North Controversy

In an April worksession council ignited a controversy when it met with the owner of Lakeside North who presented ideas for a 25-story high-rise on the undeveloped portion of the property. County Executive Rushern Baker and U.S. Representative Steny Hoyer were said to support the proposal but there was a split on council on this issue. The building would require a zoning change to permit a density higher than any current county zoning category.

A citizens group formed to oppose the proposal. They expressed concerns about the impact of the development on the city’s green belt, traffic, schools and city facilities and how it might affect the surrounding communities. They are also concerned that the county will sneak in the higher density as part of the zoning rewrite, although the county planning staff said that should not happen. As the year ends, the developer has not submitted a rezoning request or any further proposals for the project.

Greenbelt Gets Greener

Greenbelt continued to stride toward environmental sustainability in 2016. Thanks to the efforts of Public Works, the Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability, their Green Team Zero-waste Circle and many volunteers, waste destined for landfills was greatly reduced at city events throughout the year. Paired bins scattered around Roosevelt Center made it easy for residents and visitors alike to separate recyclables from landfill-bound waste. The Greenbelt Library, MakerSpace, the Co-op Supermarket and other businesses participated in the TapIt Metro DC network, refilling water bottles for free to reduce the use of disposable water bottles.

The city proclaimed the first week of September as Zero Waste Week to encourage residents and city programs to increase their zero-waste efforts on a regular basis by reducing waste, reusing materials, composting food scraps and yard waste and increasing recycling. In November, the Zero-waste Circle, in partnership with Public Works, was awarded the Jim Cassels Community Service Award. The award will allow Public Works to construct a receptacle where residents can drop off to-be-specified non-recyclable items, which will be ‘upcycled’ into new products. Greenbelters

See TOP STORIES, page 9

Artist in Residence Creates With Colorful Abandon

by Jane Ulrich

Yellow, red and blue dyes soak through crisply folded shirts, and only after the dye has set and the artist’s hands shake the shirt free do you see the cat in the tie dye. Greenbelt has a new infusion of color by artist-in-residence Erin Cassell. Starting January 10 at the Community Center, she will introduce Greenbelters age 10 and up to her philosophy on how to make a better world through tie dye.

In every class she teaches in Greenbelt, Cassell wants to encourage the world to be a caring place. She has puzzled about how best to do this. To this end she has each student donate a tie-dyed hairband to the Casey Cares Foundation, an organization that offers support to families going through a childhood catastrophic illness. She encourages her students to learn an approach to art that decreases stigmas.



PHOTO COURTESY OF ERIN CASSELL

Erin Cassell shows off some of her wearable art.

Cassell fuses knowledge of tie dye with her own philosophy, colorful abandon. With colorful abandon she teaches children to be kind to themselves and to be okay with their feelings. It is Cassell’s hope that by addressing issues early she can promote a more accepting and creative society while encouraging leaders to be resourceful and creative.

For example, if a child takes a classmate’s pencil, Cassell encourages the child to see how

important it is to understand how that can affect the classmate, to apologize, to learn from the process and afterwards continue the art. She works on not traumatizing a child who simply has a lot to learn. It’s not about feeling bad, it’s more about doing the right thing.

The colorful clothing hanging in Cassell’s Columbia studio displays her creativity. What makes

her projects professional when compared to backyard summer projects? It starts with professional grade dyes that are locally made by a professional. Then it is about experimenting with folding, using artificial sinew and trying new techniques. There are thousands of professional tie dye artists and she tries to build her own unique lines and classes.

Cassell’s clientele ranges from children to adults. If teaching art to children, Cassell recommends *The Dot* by Peter H. Reynolds, which is part of the Create Trilogy.

In the four-class series at the Community Center, Cassell will cover the basics of tie dyeing: learning about dye, shapes, fold, color and various tools that can be used. She even uses a hemostat in this process. This tie dye does not come from a box and does not fade quickly. Each participant will make four projects to keep and one to donate.

For further information on Erin Cassell, see rollupndye.com. For further information on the tie dying class, see the online Greenbelt Winter 2017 Recreation Activity Guide at md-greenbelt.civicplus.com/DocumentCenter/View/1868.

To Greenbelt Friends & Neighbors



May 2017 Be
Peaceful
Productive
&
Prosperous

Leta and Darrell Mach



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Mike Cantwell: 240-350-5749
Michael McAndrew: 240-432-8233
Mindy Wu: 301-661-5387

Frances Fendlay: 240-481-3851
Christina Doss: 410-365-6769
Mark Riley: 301-792-3638
Rachel Howard: 443-852-4924

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IF YOU ARE CONSIDERING SELLING OR BUYING IN 2017,
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HAPPY NEW YEAR!

2017

FROM YOUR FRIENDS AT
TOWN CENTER REALTY

Residents Displaced by Fire In Greenbriar Condo Complex

by Cathie Meetre

A fire in the Greenbriar Condominiums complex, Hanover Parkway, on December 20, caused significant damage, temporarily displacing residents from 14 units in one building due to the utilities being shut off. Officials for the condo complex noted that nine of the families were able to return to their homes the next day and of the four uninhabitable units, one resident was out of town and another unit was vacant during remodeling by its owner, leaving only two families to be housed by the Red Cross in a local hotel (one family made other arrangements). During the night the Greenbriar Community Building was opened to host displaced families in warmth and safety.

In addition to the four units seriously damaged, three others had relatively minor problems resulting from water damage or holes made for venting. The adjacent tier of apartments will eventually be affected by repair work to roof trusses extending across both tiers, and there was also damage to a lower level storage room. According to Condominium Ventures, Inc. (CVI), Greenbriar’s management company, the fire started in the HVAC closet of one apartment and spread upwards from there.

CVI had kudos for the Greenbelt Police and Fire Departments, congratulating them on prompt response and rapid containment of the fire. Community Manager Julie Cummings noted that in addition to their expertise in rapidly containing and extinguishing the fire, the police and firefighters spread sand to prevent slipping hazards from water that had run into the parking lot and frozen, and escorted families back into their homes to pick up essentials and medications.

CVI extended its sympathies to the affected residents, expressing sincere relief that nobody was hurt during the fire and noting it was also a “true shame that it happened this time of year.” In an email, CVI later reminded all their Greenbriar owners that residents should have appropriate insurance for their apartment and noted that two of those affected in this fire did not have such coverage.

CVI also said that many residents have asked how they can help the displaced families. Phase II is planning to collect monetary donations in a separate fund to help the victims of 7800. Those wishing to contribute can drop off monetary donations to the Greenbriar office at 7600 Hanover Pkwy between 8:30 a.m. and 4 p.m.

2003 Fire

Cummings also drew a parallel to the devastating conflagration of November 21, 2003, when a fire occurred in nearby building 7806, expressing her relief in comparison. The 2003 fire broke out just before 10 p.m. and by the time it was extinguished, one resident had lost her life and nine people were injured with burns or smoke inhalation, five of them firefighters. The fire spread rapidly and the hallways filled with dense, choking smoke, driving the victims to their balconies for rescue. Three floors of 7806 collapsed into the basement and firefighters



Clean up continues after the fire in the Greenbriar Condominiums.

Photos by Amy Hansen



The fire in this Greenbriar building displaced families.

were forced to attack the flames from the perimeter because the interior was too dangerous to access. Over 100 firefighters from throughout the area fought the blaze. More on the 2003 fire can be found online in the Greenbelt News Review archive at GreenbeltNewsReview.com/issues/GNR20031127.pdf.

Police Blotter

Based on information released by the Greenbelt Police Department, www.greenbeltmd.gov/police
Dates and times are those when police were first contacted about incidents.

Robbery

December 16, 10:49 p.m., 9100 block Springhill Lane. Two people walking down the street were approached by a man who displayed a handgun and announced a robbery. After he got a wallet and cell phone, the handgun (BB gun) he was holding fell apart. He then punched one of the people he had robbed and fled on foot.

Theft

December 13, 2 p.m., 7700 block Hanover Parkway. A parcel was taken from the front stoop of a residence.

Counterfeit Money

December 18, 6:45 p.m., 6100 block Cherrywood Lane. A man arranged to sell a video game player to a person he met through a social media site. After the transaction was completed the seller discovered he had been paid with counterfeit money. The buyer is described as a black man, 5’10” tall, 140 to 160 pounds, wearing a blue hooded sweatshirt and black shorts, walking a small white dog.

Burglary

December 15, 12:20 p.m., 9100 block Edmonston Road. Video game players, video games, notebook computer, laptop computer and cash were taken after a residence was entered by tampering with the front door lock.

December 20, 3:31 a.m., 5900 block Greenbelt Road. Money was taken from Dunkin’ Donuts after a break-in.

Vehicle Crime

A 2014 Ford Econoline E250 van taken from 8 Court Research Road December 19 was recovered on Route 50 near Pennsy Drive in Hyattsville by a friend of the owner prior to it being reported stolen. Power tools were missing from it.

A 2003 GMC Yukon SUV reported stolen October 1 from the 7200 block Morrison Drive was recovered December 20 by Prince George’s County police in the 8900 block Congress Place in Hyattsville.

A 2015 Nissan Maxima reported stolen October 2 from the 9000 block Breezewood Terrace was recovered December 20 by Prince George’s County police in the 4000 block Silver Park Drive in Suitland.

A purse was taken on December 17 in the 6300 block Golden Triangle Drive after the vehicle’s rear driver-side window was broken out.

A rear passenger-side window was broken and the vehicle rummaged through on December 18 on Crescent Road near Southway. Nothing appeared to have been taken.

The Department is offering a reward of up to \$1,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of a suspect in any of the unsolved crimes reported in the blotter.

Call 1-866-411-TIPS.

People may anonymously report suspected drug activity by calling the Drug Tip Line at 240-542-2145.

visit
www.greenbeltnewsreview.com

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Attend Our School Open Houses!
Wednesday, 11/16 from 7:00-8:30 p.m.
Sunday, 1/29 from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
Tuesday, 1/31 from 8:30-11:00 a.m.
...or call anytime for a tour!

Home of the Archdiocese’s Distinguished Principal, Mrs. Bovich

Greenbelt History in Photos

Promotion with Art

by James Giese

(This is the tenth in a series of historic photograph presentations that help tell the story of Greenbelt's early history.)

Government artists painted concepts of what the Greenbelt project would look like. This scan is of a portion of a copy of the watercolor "Utopia" that idealized Greenbelt. It was done by a government artist, Aurelius Battaglia, who became a noted illustrator, muralist, writer and director. The scan was taken from one of the copies reproduced for sale at the time of the city's fiftieth anniversary. Here an idyllic family is picnicking under a tree on a hill overlooking row homes similar to those to be built in Greenbelt as approaching neighbors hale them.

Building a dam to make Greenbelt Lake was conceived as a way to put men to work before plans for the community were finished. Hand labor was often used in place of machines in order to put more men to work. Workmen were brought by train from Washington and Baltimore to the Berwyn Station and trucked over to the construction site. Many worked only half-days. This was to provide work for more men and to encourage workers to continue to seek full time employment.

This photograph of an artist's painting of the to-be-built lake is in the Library of Congress Greenbelt Project files.



"Utopia" by government artist Aurelius Battaglia

Other prints of artist's renditions can be seen at the Greenbelt Museum and at the Greenbelt Homes, Inc. offices on Hamilton Place. One rendering is of a bathhouse pavilion and swimmers at

Greenbelt Lake and another of an inn, neither built. Swimming was permitted at the lake the first year, but prohibited once the swimming pool was built and opened.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

TOP STORIES continued from page 7

are already in tune with similar efforts by the Prince George's County Department of the Environment, and provided comments on the county's draft Zero Waste Strategic Plan at a forum at the Old Greenbelt Theatre in early December.

Greenbelt Chooses Clinton

With Maryland regarded as a Democratic stronghold and no significant challenges to local Democratic candidates, Greenbelters found the days preceding the November 8 presidential election to be relatively free of the usual bombardment of political advertising and personal contacts. For the state, the pundits were correct, as Greenbelt and Maryland voters strongly supported Hillary Clinton for president, but not quite so strongly as they had supported President Barack Obama. Greenbelters also joined with Marylanders to elect Chris Van Hollen to the U.S. Senate and with Fifth Congressional District voters to reelect Steny Hoyer to his 18th full term in office. Nationwide, Donald Trump surprised many by winning the majority of states and their electoral votes in his campaign to become the country's next president on January 20, 2017.

Forebay Renovation

The water in Greenbelt Lake should be less polluted after a \$1 million, four-month renovation of the forebays. Forebays are the two retaining ponds on the edge of the lake. A grand reopening was held on December 3. Presentations from the Public Works Department and the Prince George's Clean Water Partnership attracted 50 people.

The dredging removed 2,385 cubic yards of earth from the two forebays. The dirt was moved to landfill because of the pollutants in the dirt.

Originally constructed in 1988, the bays' purpose is to let particulates settle before the water flows into the lake. The feeder streams are natural and are also fed by storm water runoff. As stream water enters the lake system it carries dirt and pollutants. The bays serve as a sediment trap. They periodically need to be dredged.

After dredging the ponds Stormwater Maintenance and Consulting built an obstacle course for the water coming in. The bays now have varying levels and a stone retaining wall. As the water comes in, it is forced to slow down and drop its sediment before it gets to the lake

The project, which needed to comply with federal clean water regulations, was paid for with the county's Storm Water Utility Fee (also known as the "rain tax"). There was no cost to Greenbelt.

Retirements

City Manager Michael P. McLaughlin announced his planned retirement in a Letter to the Editor of this paper on May 5, vacating the top city administrative office he has held for two decades. The exact date of retirement is dependent upon the city council's successful effort to name a replacement, which is now expected to take place early in the new year. McLaughlin spent nearly his entire professional career in local government administration, almost 37 years working for the city, beginning as an administrative assistant in the city manager's office, serving as assistant city manager under two managers and then being appointed by the council to be the city's sixth city manager. During his career, McLaughlin married and he and wife Leslie raised three children here – Matthew, Andrew and Julie – to adulthood.

October saw the quiet departure of another longtime city leader, Police Chief James Craze, who served 28 years in that capacity and spent his entire 45-year law enforcement career, except for military service, as a Greenbelt police officer. Under his leadership, the department achieved a degree of professionalism that led to accreditation of the department by a nationally recognized organization and avoidance of the high-profile, politically charged controversies faced by many other law enforcement agencies. Craze was recognized by his peers by being elected to serve as a vice-president of the International Association of Chiefs of Police.

Major Thomas Kemp will serve as acting chief, pending the appointment of a chief by the next city manager.

See TOP STORIES, page 12

Seniors on Stage Auditions Announced

On Friday, January 6 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Prince George's County residents who are 60 and older and have singing talent are invited to audition for the 2017 Seniors on Stage Show to be held in April. Auditions are scheduled every 15 minutes.

Call 301-446-3400 for audition guidelines and requirements.

This free event will take place at the Laurel-Beltsville Senior Activity Center, 7120 Contee Road in Laurel.

Riversdale Candlelight Tours, Music Offered

On Friday, December 30 at 6 p.m. residents from three eras of Riversdale history welcome guests to the candlelit museum for tours, refreshments, live music and children's activities. There is a small fee. Children 12 and under are free with an adult. Call 301-864-0420, TTY 301-699-2544 or contact riversdale@pg-parks.com for more information.



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OPERATORS AND MANICURIST needed for family hair salon. Dominick's Hairstylist, College Park. 301-980-9200.

LOST AND FOUND

LOST – "SKY" is a black cat, 2 ½ years old, about 7 lbs, in the Lakecrest Drive/Lakeside Drive area. Last seen on Dec. 22. If found, please contact Malia at 301-938-9894. We miss him.

REAL ESTATE RENTAL

RETIRED GENTLEMAN looking to rent; please contact 301-395-0751, or charles.sleeth@free.fr

SERVICES

NEXT DAY HOME/LAWN SERVICES would like to say "thank you" to those Greenbelt residents who demonstrated common sense and good taste to support Next Day throughout the past year. Next Day appreciates the Greenbelt Community and looks forward to even more opportunities to serve its residents in 2017!

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READY FOR WINTER? Before your yard is buried in leaves, call Dennis at Next Day Home/Lawn for leaf removal, overseeding, and lawn preparation for the winter. 240-264-7638.

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BOXED: \$9.60 column inch. Minimum 1.5 inches (\$14.40). Deadline 4 p.m. Monday for ads that need to be set up, including those needing clip art and/or borders. 8 p.m. Tuesday for camera-ready ads.

NEEDED: Please include name, phone number and address with ad copy. Ads not considered accepted until published.


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GREENWAY continued from page 3

which is a perennial topic of conversation with shopping centers and other businesses with parking lots. Haley noted that the extreme heat of last summer was a challenge to the maintenance of landscaping. Additional problems were created by the snow of last winter, not only salt damage but the removal of snow from the parking lots. Haley pointed out that they also must remove snow from all the roofs at Greenway Center, which along with the parking lots “can put a big dent in their budget.”

Asked if there were any pads still to be developed, Hull said there is still a possibility for one in the area where the Christmas trees are sold. They are in no hurry to build that out, however, and will wait until the right tenant turns up.

As a biker and frequent pedestrian, the mayor commented that access for pedestrians and bikes is still not good at Greenway Center. Another concern is that there is no easy way for pedestrians to enter the center from the bus stop on Greenbelt Road. Marusak said that would eventually be reviewed as part of a broader study but could not be addressed right away.

Asked if they had any suggestions or problems regarding the city’s services, Bunch said he believed they work well with the property inspector from the city and have no problems there. Marusak, too, commented on the good working relationship they have with city staff, particularly the recent work with Assistant Director of Planning Terri Hruby on the monument sign.

In answer to a question from Jordan on how they envisioned the center in 10 years, Hull replied that it might not look too different since they have some very long-term leases, including some into the decade of the 2030s.

Roberts congratulated them, saying Greenway Center is “thriving and successful” and he would not want to see it redeveloped. Hull replied that there is no need for change at this point. “There are people knocking on the door [to lease] all the time,” he said.



City Celebrates Families With Jingle Baby Holiday

The Greenbelt Assistance in Living Program in partnership with the DC Diaper Bank, BabyLove DC, and the support of several Greenbelt businesses and staff hosted the Jingle Baby Holiday Giveaway for pre-registered Greenbelt residents at the Springhill Lake Recreation Center Clubhouse on Monday, December 19.



Above: Staff from the Greenbelt Assistance in Living Program usher in families to the Jingle Baby Giveaway held at Springhill Lake Recreation Center on December 19.

Right: Toys for toddlers were also included in Jingle Baby.

Photos by Imani Jackson



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Snippets from the Past



This tongue-in-cheek ad appeared in the November 26, 1987, 50th Anniversary Special Edition of the Greenbelt News Review. Its inspiration appears to be the efforts by a dedicated group of residents to establish the new Greenbelt Co-op Supermarket in 1984.



Volunteer Lizzy McMurtrie cheerfully lends a helping hand.



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Corner Lot - Backs to Woods - Modern kitchen with ss appls., granite counters, ceramic tile and new cabinets. Sliding door, patio and screened porch.

LAKEWOOD - Corner Lot & garage/workshop. Remodeled throughout, hardwood flrs., modern kitchen, large family rm., sunroom & more. \$339,000

Backs To Woods - 3BR Townhome with fenced yard and new ss. Modern cabinets & s.s. appliances. Ceramic Tiled Bathroom. \$144,900 **SOLD**

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Single-Level Living - 1 Bedroom GHI home completely remodeled. Includes energy efficient furnace, pump-a-c system. New appliances & more! **SOLD**

Bargain-Priced Townhome - 2 bedroom wide unit GHI townhome with sliding doors opening onto large deck and fenced backyard. Value! \$116,900

Single-Level Living - Lower-Level 1-Bedroom townhome with modern kitchen. Large corner lot with spacious deck that backs up to woods. **UNDER CONTRACT**

Large Corner Lot - 3 Bedroom GHI home with \$250k in new floors - NEW kitchen, new ss. appliances, new floors. Enormous fenced yard - covered porch. **SOLD**

Brick Townhome - Just steps away from Roosevelt Center. Amazing kitchen with granite counters, modern cabinets & s.s. appliances. Beautiful! **SOLD**

Brick Townhome - 3 BR townhome completely remodeled by D. Refinished hardwood floors upstairs; new laminate & carpeting on lower level. **SOLD**

Brick Towhome - Estate Sale - 2 BR GHI home. Completely remodeled top to bottom. New appls, cabs, ceramic tile, refin. flrs... Priced to sell at \$149,900

Brick Townhome - Corner Lot - Completely remodeled 3 BR GHI townhome with ref. hardwood floors upstairs. Fenced Backyard with Trex deck. **SOLD**

1 BR - Lower Level - Corner Lot - Raised deck that overlooks protected woodlands. Forested yard with fire pit & large seating area. Shed & workbench! **SOLD**

1 Bedroom GHI End Unit - Upper Level with hardwood floors and finished oak hardwood floors. Kitchen w/breakfast bar creates lots of space. **SOLD**

Value-Priced Home - 2 Bedroom GHI townhome with ref. kitchen & dishwasher. Ceramic tile, washer/dryer. Fenced backyard w/shed. \$112,000 **SOLD**

3 Bedroom GHI Townhome - Oak hardwood flooring throughout. Fenced backyard with large shed & brick patio. Nearby playground, friendly neighbors!

Large Corner Lot - 2 Bedroom GHI home - Freshly upgraded by GHI! New siding, windows and doors. Refinished hardwood flooring throughout. Ready!

Your Greenbelt Specialists In Roosevelt Center

TOP STORIES continued from page 9



PHOTO BY WILLIAM CORNETT

Rescuers watch and wait as a construction worker is slowly dug out of the mud after the trench collapsed around him.

Trench Cave-in

A construction worker in his 50s became trapped up to his chest in a 12-foot deep trench behind the dam at Buddy Attick Park on Wednesday, November 16. He was completely covered with dirt when the trench collapsed but co-workers were able to remove the dirt around his head and upper body to allow him to breathe. Sixty firefighters and medics from the Prince George’s County Fire/EMS Department and a technical rescue team from Howard County responded to the alert for a trench rescue. They “worked seamlessly,” according to Mark Brady, spokesperson for Prince George’s County. Rescuers shored up the first walls to gain access to him, passed down an oxygen line and pumped warm air into the trench. Dirt around him changed to mud, which slowed progress and necessitated the removal handful by handful. The man was freed after about five hours and air-evacuated to Prince George’s Trauma Center aboard U.S. Park Police Eagle 1, in critical but stable condition. The next morning Brady reported he “was alive and in good spirits.” The man has since been released.

Aaron Solomon

It’s been a banner year for Aaron Solomon of Crescent Road. Now a senior at the University of Maryland, he graduated from the Eleanor Roosevelt High School (ERHS) science and technology program in 2013. For Solomon, that early training in science at ERHS has worked out to be a splendid basis for future achievement. In March 2017, he and two classmates will watch their biology experiment launch to the International Space Station. The experiment addresses how bacteria behave in microgravity – ultimately giving us insights on how to safeguard space travelers. “There’s nothing like fulfilling a childhood dream of flying to space – even if it’s by proxy of an experiment,” said Solomon. Solomon also recently learned that he had been awarded a coveted Marshall Scholarship, which commemorates the humane ideals of the Marshall Plan and expresses the continuing gratitude of the British people to their American counterparts. In September 2017, he will continue his work in biological sciences at one of London, England’s most prestigious technical universities, Imperial College, followed by a stint at Cambridge University. “This is the opportunity of a lifetime,” said Solomon. Greenbelt’s best wishes go with him.

BRIDGE continued from page 1

this program is expected to be small, as just 24 residents of the 20770 zip code received the state credit in 2015. Council unanimously approved a resolution to support the county’s applications for state grants used to provide energy efficiency upgrades for low-to-moderate income homeowners. Council also approved the purchase of a van for use by the Green Ridge House service coordinator and the Greenbelt Assistance in Living programs.

Petition

Colin Byrd asked council to ban replica guns. Citing recent incidents where people have been shot by police while holding replicas, he said that banning them could save lives and reduce police liability.

APB

Syed Shamim was appointed to the Advisory Planning Board.



Above: An American robin rests among berries at Greenbelt Lake.

Left: A male wood duck sports a new look as he comes into plumage at Buddy Attick Park.

Photos by Gloria Brown



Best wishes for the New Year from the Staff of the Greenbelt News Review

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